



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TEMPE RESIDENT SENTENCED TO 2 YEARS IN PRISON FOR POSSESSION OF STOLEN MAIL

PHOENIX – Misty Jade Taber, 29, of Tempe, Ariz., was sentenced here on January 24, 2007, to two years in prison and ordered to perform 50 hours of community service, for two counts of Possession of Stolen Mail, by U.S. District Judge Mary H. Murguia. Taber previously pleaded guilty to the felony offenses on September 7, 2006.

In the course of her guilty plea, Taber admitted that on February 25, 2006, she and co-defendant Aisha Phillips knowingly possessed multiple pieces of stolen mail including: two Chase Visa Cards that had been addressed to Laveen, Arizona, residents, and a series of checks drawn on a World Savings Bank account and related statements in the names of two Mesa, Arizona, residents. Taber also admitted that at the time of her and Phillips' Phoenix arrest that same day, they were in a van that contained numerous additional pieces of stolen mail including at least six credit cards in other people's names, and papers containing handwritten notes regarding personal and identifying information for over fifty different people and seventy-five different access devices. At sentencing, the government noted that Taber had been motivated to steal other people's mail and personal identities in order to obtain money to satisfy her methamphetamine addiction.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and the Phoenix Police Department. The prosecution was handled by Frederick A. Battista, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-313-001-PHX-MHM
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